

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below:

- 5 1. (Currently amended) A method of bleaching cellulose pulp in a bleaching line, having at least two bleaching steps comprising:
providing a first ~~(D1)~~ and a second ~~(D2)~~ bleaching step, as
seen in ~~the direction of a flow direction~~ of the cellulose
10 pulp through the bleaching line,
~~which the~~ bleaching steps ~~have~~ having wash apparatuses ~~(W4,~~
~~W5)~~ for the pulp arranged after the first and the second
bleaching steps, respectively,
~~and in which leading wash liquor and where appropriate~~
15 ~~dilution liquor is led in principle in counter-currently to~~
~~the a pulp flow through the bleaching steps, in the bleach~~
~~line (W1 D0 W2 EO/EOP W3 D1 W4 D2 W5), characterised in~~
~~that~~ supplying the wash liquor ~~is supplied~~ in a main conduit
~~(1) that is pressurised during steady state,~~
20 ~~that at least one of taking the~~ wash liquor ~~and dilution~~
~~liquor is taken to the a subsequent wash (W5) of the second~~
~~bleaching step (D2), from a first branch position (A1) in the~~
~~main conduit,~~
~~and leading~~ at least a part of the wash filtrate from the
25 subsequent wash of the second bleaching step ~~is led to a~~
second branch position ~~(A2)~~ in the main conduit,
~~that at least one liquor of taking the~~ wash liquor ~~and~~
~~dilution liquor is taken to the a subsequent wash (W4) of the~~
first bleaching step ~~(D1)~~ from a third branch position (A3) in
30 the main conduit,
~~and leading~~ at least a part of the wash filtrate from the
subsequent wash of the first bleaching step ~~is led to a fourth~~
branch position (A4) in the main conduit,
arranging the first branch position in a first position and

the second branch position and the fourth branch position in subsequent succession relative to the first branch position as seen in the flow direction.

5 ~~in which the branch positions (A1 A4) connect to the main conduit with the first branch position (A1) arranged first, as seen in the direction of flow in the main conduit, and the second to fourth branch positions (A2 A4) in succession.~~

10 2. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein a base level of pressure in the main conduit is established at a level in ~~the~~ a range of 1,5-3,5 bars.

15 3. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein dilution and wash liquids taken from the main conduit to dilution vessels or wash apparatuses operating at pressures above the base level is pressurised by a second pressurising means, ~~preferably a pump.~~

20 4. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 2 ~~1~~ ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the base level of pressure in the main conduit is established at a level in ~~the~~ a range of 4,5-6,5 bars, ~~wherein preferably no further pressurisation of the liquid is necessary.~~

25 5. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein ~~any of claims 1-4,~~ characterised in that the main conduit is connected to receive and distribute acidic filtrate from and to, respectively, acidic bleaching steps.

30 6. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any of claims 1-4,~~ characterised in that claim 1 wherein the main conduit is connected to receive and distribute alkaline filtrate from and to, respectively, alkaline bleaching steps.

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7. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 5 ~~or 6,~~
~~characterised in that wherein~~ upstream ~~said the~~ first branch
position (A1) in ~~the~~ a first end of the main conduit, a main
pressurising device, ~~preferably a pump (P20) or a pressurised~~
5 wash liquid tank, is provided which ~~pressurises~~ pressurizes
the main conduit and establishes a basic flow in the main
conduit in a direction reverse to ~~the~~ a formed flow of
cellulose pulp in ~~the~~ a bleaching line.

10 8. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 7,
~~characterised in that wherein~~ before the second (A2) and
fourth (A4) branch positions, filtrate is led to the main
conduit (1), via pump devices (P21', P22').

15 9. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 1, ~~5 or~~
~~6, characterised in~~
~~that wherein~~ at least one additional bleaching step (D0) is
provided before the first and second bleaching steps, as seen
in the flow direction ~~of flow~~ of the ~~cellulose~~ pulp, after
20 ~~which additional bleaching step a wash apparatus (W2) is~~
~~provided for the pulp, and~~
~~that~~ at least one liquor of wash liquor and dilution liquor
is taken to ~~the~~ a subsequent wash of ~~the~~ an additional
bleaching step, from a fifth branch position (A5) in the main
25 conduit (1) and ~~that~~ at least a part of the wash filtrate from
the subsequent wash of the additional bleaching step is led to
a sixth branch position (A6) in the main conduit,
~~in which the branch positions connect to the main conduit~~
~~with the fifth branch position arranged after the fourth~~
30 ~~branch position, as seen in the direction of flow in the main~~
~~conduit, and the sixth branch position in succession~~
~~thereafter, and wherein the fifth and sixth branch conduits~~
~~are connected to the established common base level of pressure~~
~~in the main conduit.~~

10. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein an extraction step ~~(EO/EOP)~~ is
provided after the additional bleaching step and before the
first bleaching step, as seen in the flow ~~direction of flow~~ of
5 the ~~cellulose~~ pulp through the bleaching line, and that a wash
apparatus ~~(W3)~~ is arranged after the extraction step.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 10,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein the wash filtrate from the
10 subsequent wash of the extraction step, at least partly is
used as dilution liquor for the wash step subsequent to the
additional bleaching step, and ~~that~~ a part of ~~this~~ the wash
filtrate ~~when needed~~ is drawn off ~~from the process~~.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 9,
~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cellulose pulp is washed in
a wash apparatus before the additional bleaching step, as seen
in the flow ~~direction of flow~~ of the ~~cellulose~~ pulp through
the bleaching line, and ~~that~~ at least one liquor of wash
20 liquor and dilution liquor is taken to ~~this~~ the wash apparatus
from a seventh branch position in the main conduit.

13. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims,~~ characterised in that claim 1 wherein at
25 ~~least~~ chlorine dioxide, or some other bleaching chemical that
~~is compatible throughout the bleaching steps,~~ is used as
active bleaching agent in the bleaching steps, which chlorine
dioxide is added to the pulp in a blending apparatus ~~before~~
~~the bleaching step~~.

14. (Currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims,~~ characterised in that claim 1 wherein at an
the other end of the main conduit, ~~as seen after the branch~~
~~points (A1-A7),~~ an outlet ~~(10)~~ is provided, from which wash
35 liquor and filtrate ~~can be~~ are drawn off.

15. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 14,
~~characterised in that the outlet is controlled by a pressure~~
~~and/or flow controlling control valve, which control valve can~~
5 ~~achieve feed back control of the main pump device to secure a~~
~~predetermined pressure and/or flow throughout the entire main~~
~~conduit (1).~~